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## **BREEDERS' CUP TO RETURN TO CHURCHILL DOWNS IN 2018**

*Breeders' Cup Announces Host Site for the 2018 Breeders' Cup World Championships;  
Iconic Event to Return to Louisville, Kentucky*

**LEXINGTON, Ky. (April 25, 2016) – The Breeders' Cup**, one of Thoroughbred horseracing's most prestigious international events, has today announced that it will return to Churchill Downs in Louisville, Kentucky in 2018. As part of the company's ongoing strategy to maintain a three-year out host site plan, Breeders' Cup will work closely with Churchill Downs and the local Louisville community to drive excitement and anticipation for the event over the next few years.

One of the world's most iconic and recognized tracks, Churchill Downs last hosted the Breeders' Cup World Championships in 2011. The return to Louisville reflects the Breeders' Cup commitment to bring the event to the country's best racetracks and to combine the sport's best racing with best-in-class dining, hospitality and entertainment.

"We are thrilled to announce our return to Louisville," said Breeders' Cup President and CEO, Craig Fravel. "Churchill Downs' ongoing, significant investment in their facility to enhance the experience for participants and fans aligns perfectly with our desire to conduct one of the best racing events in the world, and we're looking forward to another landmark event in 2018."

The 35<sup>th</sup> Breeders' Cup World Championships will be held on Friday, November 2 and Saturday, November 3, 2018 and televised live by NBC Sports Group.

Since 2011, Churchill Downs has invested more than \$67 million in the facility to further elevate the experience for all fans and participants, while also introducing new, in-demand luxury seating and entertainment options. The improvements include Clubhouse enhancements, Winner's Circle Suites, Grandstand Terrace & Rooftop Garden, The Mansion and the installation of the world's largest 4,000 Ultra High Definition Big Board.

"We are excited that the Breeders' Cup World Championships will be returning in 2018 to Churchill Downs Racetrack, the city of Louisville and Kentucky," said Bill Carstanjen, Chief Executive Officer, Churchill Downs Incorporated. "Fan support for the Breeders' Cup at Churchill Downs has been spectacular in the eight previous visits and our track has been the scene of many of the most important performances in the event's history. I'm confident the return of the Breeders' Cup World Championships to Churchill Downs will be an unforgettable event."

The 2018 Breeders' Cup World Championships will be the ninth time that the event will be hosted at Churchill Downs which, at that time, will be tied with Santa Anita Park in California for the most ever held at one venue. In years past, largely in part to the incredible support of the Louisville community and Kentucky residents, Churchill Downs has hosted the largest Breeders' Cup's crowds, including a record-breaking two-day attendance figure of 114,353 in 2010, which also set a two-day on-track handle record of \$22,515,318 and a total two-day handle record of \$173,857,697. In 2018 these numbers have the potential to reach all-time highs as interest in the Breeders' Cup continues to grow.

### **About Breeders' Cup**

The Breeders' Cup administers the Breeders' Cup World Championships, Thoroughbred racing's year-end Championships. The Breeders' Cup also administers the Breeders' Cup Challenge qualifying series, which provides automatic starting positions into the Championships races. The 2016 Breeders' Cup World Championships, consisting of 13 (grade I) races and purses totalling \$26 million, will be held Nov. 4-5 at Santa Anita Park in Arcadia, Calif., and will be televised live by the NBC Sports Group. Breeders' Cup press releases appear on the Breeders' Cup Web site, [www.breederscup.com](http://www.breederscup.com). You can also follow the Breeders' Cup on social media platforms Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

### **About Churchill Downs Racetrack**

Churchill Downs, the world's most legendary racetrack, has conducted Thoroughbred racing and presented America's greatest race, the Kentucky Derby, continuously since 1875. Located in Louisville, the flagship racetrack of Churchill Downs Incorporated (NASDAQ: CHDN) offers year-round simulcast wagering at the historic track. Churchill Downs will conduct the 142<sup>nd</sup> running of the Kentucky Derby Presented by Yum! Brands on May 7, 2016. The track's 2016 Spring Meet is scheduled for April 30-July 2. The track has hosted the Breeders' Cup World Championships eight times. For more information visit [www.ChurchillDowns.com](http://www.ChurchillDowns.com)

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